



**CALIFORNIA  
HIGH-SPEED RAIL  
AUTHORITY**

**DRAFT**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
May 3, 2012  
Fresno Convention Center, Exhibit Hall 3  
700 M Street  
Fresno, CA 93721**

The public meeting of the California High-Speed Rail Authority Board was called to order on May 3, 2012 at 9:06am at the Fresno Convention Center, Fresno, CA.

Members Present: Lynn Schenk, Vice-Chair  
Tom Richards, Vice-Chair  
Jim Hartnett  
Thomas Umberg  
Russell Burns

Members Absent: Dan Richard, Chairman  
Michael Rossi  
Bob Balgenorth

Pledge of allegiance was administered by Vice-Chair Lynn Schenk.

Minutes prepared in the order items were presented during the meeting.

**Public Comment**

An opportunity was made for public comment. A few people spoke in opposition and support of the project.

**Agenda Item # 11 – Adopt and Approve the Limited English Proficiency Plan**

Ms. Fonseca presented to the Board for their approval the Limited English Proficiency Plan. The plan complies with the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and the Federal Railroad Administration. Upon approval the plan will be posted on the Authority's website, as well as transmitted to consultants, staff, and the short list of RFQ firms. Resolution HSRA 12-15 was presented for the approval of the Board. Mr. Umberg moved to adopt the resolution. Mr. Burns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

**Agenda Item # 12 – Update on Amendment to Title VI Plan**

Ms. Fonseca presented the amended Title VI plan to the Board. The amendment to the Title VI program plan requires a yearly, or more often as determined by the Board, accomplishment and activities report to be submitted to the Board Finance and Audit Committee. The Title VI language has been modified to reflect this amendment. There was no action taken for this item.

#### **Agenda Item # 7 – Report from Operations Committee on PMO Report**

This item was held over for a future meeting.

#### **Agenda Item # 8 – Supplemental Alternatives Analysis Report for Palmdale-Los Angeles**

Mr. Hawley gave a presentation on the supplemental analysis report for the Palmdale-Los Angeles section. The presentation and supplemental AA report concentrated on the Palmdale-Sylmar subsection. Two alignments were proposed to be included in the preliminary AA. The first is to adjust the alignment to follow course with Metrolink. The second is the addition of a hybrid option in the Acton/Palmdale location. The resolution HSRA 12-16 was given a motion to adopt by Mr. Hartnett. It was seconded by Mr. Umberg. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

#### **Agenda Item # 9 – Summary of and Brief Response to Comments Received on Merced to Fresno Section Final EIR/EIS**

Mr. McLoughlin presented to the Board a summary of the comments raised on the Merced to Fresno Section Final EIR/EIS. Public comment from the board meeting the day before and the previously received comments were compiled and questions were addressed. The conclusion of the summary was that staff did not find any issues that would preclude the Board from considering the resolution to certify the Merced to Fresno Final EIR/EIS.

#### **Agenda Item # 10 – Consideration of a Resolution to Certify Merced to Fresno Section Final EIR/EIS, Select North/South Alignment and Station Locations, and Make Related Decisions**

Ms. Aitchison from the Attorney General's office presented to the Board two resolutions to consider which would certify the Merced to Fresno Section Final EIR/EIS for compliance with CEQA, adopt CEQA findings of fact, a statement of overriding considerations, and mitigation monitoring and reporting plan, and approve a north/south alignment and station locations in Merced and Fresno. The motion was made to adopt resolution HSRA 12-19 for the certification of the Merced to Fresno section, the Final environmental Impact report, and Environmental Statement by Mr. Umberg. It was seconded by Vice Chair Schenk. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0) The motion was then made to adopt resolution HSRA 12-20 with amended language to add a return date to the board of July 31, 2012 by Vice-Chair Schenk. It was seconded by Mr. Umberg. The motion passed unanimously. (5-0)

#### **Agenda Item # 13 – Blending Update/Caltrain**

Mr. Albright introduced Mr. Dominic Spaethling who then gave a presentation to the Board on the blended systems update and Caltrain. There has been a focus on sharing tracks and electrifying systems. Caltrain is also evaluating grade crossing and traffic impacts of a shared corridor. Also being looked into are early investment strategies for the Caltrain corridor. No action was needed on this item.

#### **Agenda Item # 14 – Visual Guidelines**

Mr. Albright gave a brief presentation on visual guidelines and working with the communities involved. An RFP addendum has been developed that will engage the city and the design-build candidates in discussions about visual issues on the key focused areas. No action was needed on this item.

#### **Agenda Item # 15 – Legislative Update**

Ms. Greene-Ross presented an update to the Board on legislative issues and hearings coming up that relate to the High Speed Rail Authority. Both Budget subcommittees held hearings on the Department of Finance's April finance letter. Discussions took place, but no action was taken. Assembly Bill 41 was recently amended on the Senate floor to require members of our ridership peer review group to also file Statements of Economic Interest. Assembly Member Galgiani has amended a bill to require the Authority to consult with the University of California, Cal State University and California Community Colleges. She also has another bill that would require the Authority to comply with the California Prompt Payment Act, which does not currently apply to us. SB1117 was amended to have the CTC statewide ten year rail plan require input from the High Speed Rail and Caltrain. Two bills were not passed out of their houses; Assemblymember Harkey's AB1455 and Senator La Malfa's SB 95, both of which would have ceased all appropriations for Prop. 1A. No action was needed on this item.

#### **Agenda Item # 16 – Members' Report**

There were no member reports given.

**Agenda Item # 17 – Chief Executive Officer’s Report**

Mr. Fellenz gave the Chief Executive Officer’s Report. The authority staff had a successful meeting with Fresno county officials for coordinating property acquisitions. A collaborative effort is being made to reach out to property owners. Authority staff will also be attending a meeting in Kings County to meet with property owners to address several questions related to impacts to their county. On May 17<sup>th</sup>, in Bakersfield, there will be a high speed rail small business outreach event with the five design build teams to discuss business opportunities. Mr. Fellenz met with Legislative Council to provide information so they could respond to Senator Simitian’s question regarding the revised business plan’s compliance with Prop. 1A. Mr. Fellenz testified at the Little Hoover Commission in support of Governor Brown’s proposal to create a Transportation agency which will include California Transportation Commission, Caltrans, the DMV, Highway Patrol, and High Speed Rail. The Authority is hopeful it will be adopted and implemented. On Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> Mr. Dan Richard and Mr. Mike Rossi testified at the Assembly Transportation Committee hearing. Supportive testimony was also given by the Peer Review Committee.

**Vice-Chairman Richards adjourned the meeting at 11:02am**